



NLG NEWSLETTER

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Spring 2013

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK:

A CLEMY DOUBLEHEADER

By Ed Reiter

"Twofer" tickets have long been popular with theatergoers. Baseball fans love doubleheaders – though few are held anymore. And "senior citizens" such as me fondly recall a time decades ago when double bills were common in movie houses.

The NLG came up with its own variation on this theme at the 2012 Bash in Philadelphia: For the first time in its more than 40-year history, the Guild awarded its highest honor, the Clemy, to two deserving recipients, rather than just one.

The fact is, of course, that the two honorees – Jim Halperin and Steve Ivy – have been in business together for more than three decades as co-chairmen of Heritage Auctions, which proudly boasts of being "the world's largest numismatic dealer and auctioneer."

The Dallas firm has long been a major financial supporter of the Guild. Its generous contributions have helped us maintain the Bash as a highlight of each midsummer ANA convention and also provide other services to members without any increase in dues.

Their selection for the 2012 Clemy was based, however, not just on their financial support (though

service to the Guild is one of the criteria for the award). They were chosen, as well, because both are accomplished writers and between them they have written a number of books.

In 1985, Halperin authored a text on grading, *How to Grade U.S. Coins*, which blazed a trail for the two leading grading services, PCGS and NGC, when they began operations shortly thereafter. He also is the author of two bestselling futurism fiction books, *The Truth Machine* and *The First Immortal*, both of which were cited by *PC Magazine* in 2001 in its 20th Anniversary Survey of the 17 top science/technology fiction books of the previous 20 years.

Halperin and Ivy are co-authors of *The Rare Coin Estate Handbook*, a perennially popular guide for collectors and their heirs on estate planning and the disposition of coins in an estate. Will Rossman and Greg Rohan also are co-authors. In addition, the co-chairmen play an active role in the preparation of auction catalogs and other Heritage publications.

Halperin was unable to attend the Philadelphia Bash, so Ivy accepted the Clemy for both partners. The presentation was made by the previous year's

recipient, Kay Lenker, who selected the honorees from a list of nominees submitted to her by the NLG Board of Directors.

The 2012 convention marked the end of an era for Kay, who announced her resignation as treasurer of the Guild after 25 years of exceptional unpaid service. Although she is missed in that familiar role, she remains highly active in NLG affairs – and she could be assisting us soon in a new capacity, for she has agreed to serve on the NLG Board of Directors if chosen in our upcoming election. An article on the election can be found elsewhere in this issue of the *NLG Newsletter*.

Maurice Rosen has been named as our new treasurer – and, as might be expected, he's finding that Kay Lenker is a tough act to follow. But Rosen, too, has a long record of service to the Guild – as a judge in our annual Writers' Competition, a participant in our Symposium and Bash programs and, most recently, a member of our Board of Directors. He asks anyone with questions about dues or other financial matters to contact him at P.O. Box 38, Plainview, NY 11803.

Another highlight of the Philadelphia Bash was the presentation of the coveted Book of the Year Award to NLG stalwart Anthony J. Swiatek for his marvelous *Encyclopedia of the Commemorative Coins of the United States*, a massive, authoritative compendium that makes it clear why Anthony has long been referred to admiringly as "Mister Commemorative."

A simultaneous meeting of the ANA Board of Governors delayed the arrival of longtime Bash emcee Wendell Wolka, and Scott Travers, coordinator of the Writers' Competition, filled in on short notice. Scott had already planned to open the program with major awards, including the Clemy, and he seamlessly juggled the other elements as well until Wendell returned and capped the night with his droll shtick.

My modest personal contribution to the "entertainment" portion of the evening was a musical tribute to the Philadelphia Mint croaked to the tune of the 1950s Rosemary Clooney hit "This Ole House." I also had the pleasure of bestowing the much desired and little understood Ribbit Award on my good friend and

colleague Bob Julian. Fair warning: Bob is lying in the lily pads even now as he decides who this year's "lucky" winner will be.

Bashgoers again were treated to a lavish buffet featuring hot turkey and roast beef, thanks to the generosity of Mike Fuljenz, who not only underwrote the cost of the buffet but also lent the services of his superb marketing director, Amy Powell, as coordinator of the Bash. I'm delighted to report that a similar hot buffet is planned at this year's Bash in Rosemont, again thanks to Mike, and Amy will once again be the Bash coordinator.

The Bash is scheduled at 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17, at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare. The annual NLG Symposium will take place at 10 a.m. the same day in the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center. For the exact locations and to purchase tickets to the Bash, contact me at the *COINage* booth at the convention.

Incidentally, Wendell Wolka is expected to be our Bash emcee this year – hopefully from beginning to end.

See you there!

NLG NEWSLETTER

Since 1968, the official publication of the
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3 NEW DIRECTORS TO JOIN BOARD

Three new members will join the NLG Board of Directors during the 2013 ANA convention in Rosemont, Ill.

They will take over the seats currently held by David T. Alexander, Donn Pearlman and Will Rossman, all of whom are now completing four years of service on the Board, having been first elected in 2009. Under the Guild's bylaws, directors must step down after serving two consecutive two-year terms but can return to the Board at a later date.

To fill the three seats, the Board has nominated Mike Fuljenz, a prominent coin dealer who has been a longtime patron of the Guild; R.W. "Bob" Julian, a noted numismatic scholar and author; and Kay Lenker, a former member of the ANA Board of Governors who recently retired after serving for 25 years as NLG treasurer. Julian and Lenker both are recipients of the Clemy, the Guild's highest award, having won the award in 1992 and 2011, respectively, and Fuljenz has won numerous awards in the annual NLG Writers' Competition.

If no other nominations are received, a single ballot will be cast for these three nominees. If there is a contest, an election will be held by mail.

Any prospective candidate must submit nominating statements signed by three NLG members in good standing. These must be sent to Ed Reiter, Executive Director, 1517 Stewart Drive, Nanticoke, PA 18634, and received no later than June 25, 2013.

There are five members on the NLG Board of Directors. The two holdover members are Dorothy Harris and Maurice Rosen. Harris is former director of antiques and collectibles for Random House, and Rosen is publisher of the award-winning *Rosen Numismatic Advisory*.

Rosen received the Clemy in 2009, and he and Dottie Harris both have been NLG volunteers for many years, especially as judges in the annual Writers' Competition. Recently, Rosen succeeded Kay Lenker as treasurer of the Guild.

Members of the Board oversee NLG policy, review membership applications and submit nominations for the annual Clemy Award.

THE CLEMY HONOR ROLL

In a category of its own since 1968 is the Clemy Award. The highest honor of NLG is bestowed annually during the NLG Bash on an NLG member in recognition of writing skill, dedication to numismatics, sense of humor and dedication to the Numismatic Literary Guild. Nominations are submitted by members of the board to the previous year's winner, who makes the final choice.

The original Clemy was a 90-pound gold-painted typewriter donated by Gordon Z. Greene. The typewriter was retired in 1974 and placed in the ANA Museum in Colorado Springs. The current NLG logo, designed by Nathan Sobel, prominently features this historic typewriter as the central design.

1968 – Clem Bailey	1991 – Clifford Mishler
1969 – Edward C. Rochette	1992 – Robert W. Julian
1970 – Lee Martin	1993 – Russell Rulau
1971 – Margo Russell	1994 – Elvira Clain-Stefanelli
1972 – Virginia Culver	1995 – Beth Deisher
1973 – Maurice M. Gould	1996 – Col. Bill Murray
1974 – Eva B. Adams	1997 – Alan Herbert
1975 – Ray Byrne	1998 – Burnett Anderson
1976 – Chester L. Krause	1999 – Thomas K. DeLorey
1977 – Richard S. Yeoman	2000 – Wendell Wolka
1978 – Lee F. Hewitt	2001 – David C. Harper
1979 – Abe Kosoff	2002 – Scott A. Travers
1980 – Glenn B. Smedley	2003 – Bill Fivaz
1981 – Arlie Slabaugh	2004 – Neil Shafer
1982 – Eric P. Newman	2005 – Carlton Fred Schwan
1983 – Kenneth E. Bressett	2006 – Barbara Gregory
1984 – Donn Pearlman	2007 – Gene Hessler
1985 – Walter Breen	2008 – Anthony Swiatek
1986 – Ed Reiter	2009 – Maurice Rosen
1987 – David T. Alexander	2010 – Paul Whitnah
1988 – James L. Miller	2011 – Kay Lenker
1989 – Q. David Bowers	2012 – Jim Halperin & Steve Ivy
1990 – David L. Ganz	

2013 NLG WRITERS' COMPETITION RULES

Please read the following rules carefully, and follow the directions scrupulously. The judges will do their best to correct obvious mistakes involving the numbering, but entries that fail to conform to the rules (including correct numbering) will be subject to disqualification.

To be eligible for consideration in any of this year's categories, entries must have been published (or posted on the Internet) between May 1, 2012 and April 30, 2013. **Except where noted, three (3) copies of each entry must be submitted, and each copy must be accompanied by a cover sheet listing the category and other information spelled out in the rules.**

No entrant may submit more than one (1) entry in any single category. (The same entry may also be included in the portfolio competition, however.)

In categories with only one entry, judges may decide that no award will be given, or may substitute Special NLG Recognition for the regular NLG Award.

The judges reserve the right to change the category in which an entry may compete, if they believe such change is necessary to assure equity of all participants.

No entries will be returned under any circumstance.

All judges' decisions are binding and final; confidentiality of all judging is absolute.

All entries must be received no later than June 21, 2013. Entries should be sent to the contest coordinator at the following address: Scott A. Travers, c/o Sal Germano, SGRC Inc., 625 Lafayette Ave., Hawthorne, NJ 07506. The address is the same as last year.

As in the past, entries in a number of categories will be judged by editors and other well-qualified individuals outside the numismatic field. This will not affect the manner in which entries are submitted, but it's all the more reason to take special care in preparing a complete cover sheet, as required, to accompany *each copy* of *each entry*. This will make the judges' job much easier and ensure that each entry is considered in the proper category.

Each cover sheet must include the following information or it will be disqualified:

- CATEGORY NUMBER
- ENTRANT'S NAME & ADDRESS
- PUBLICATION
- PUBLICATION DATE
- TITLE OR HEADING
- AUTHOR (IF OTHER THAN ENTRANT)

BOOKS

Books may be submitted by author, publisher or editor. Three (3) copies must be submitted. Eligible are new books or those accepted by the judges at their sole discretion as substantially revised versions of earlier works.

1. BOOK OF THE YEAR

The work having the greatest potential impact on numismatics: Criteria include overall reader appeal, research quality, photographic, printing and graphic excellence, cover and typography where applicable. Books submitted in the specialized categories may be considered for Book of the Year as well.

BEST SPECIALIZED BOOK ON:

2. United States Coins
3. World Coins
4. U.S. Paper Money
5. World Paper Money
6. Tokens & Medals
7. Numismatic Investments
8. Museum & Exhibition Catalogs

U.S. NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES

(Coins, COINage magazine and similar periodicals. *Double issues are excluded.*)

BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with:

9. Coins

10. Tokens & Medals

11. Paper Money

12. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) copies EACH of three (3) selections from ongoing column.

13. BEST ISSUE

Three (3) copies of the issue submitted by the publisher or editor. Criteria include overall numismatic appeal, features, departments, graphics, journalistic and editorial excellence as applicable.

WORLD NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES

(World Coin News, The Celator, *similar overseas publications.*)

BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with:

14. Coins

15. Tokens & Medals

16. Paper Money

17. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) copies EACH of three (3) selections from ongoing column.

18. BEST ISSUE

Three (3) copies of the issue submitted by the publisher or editor. Same criteria as Category 13.

LARGE-CIRCULATION AND OTHER NON-PROFIT OR CLUB NUMISMATIC PUBLICATIONS

(*National publications, including The Numismatist and The ANS Journal, and others with a circulation of 2,500 or more.*)

19. BEST ARTICLE

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with any subject related to numismatics (ONE Award).

20. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) copies EACH of (3) selections from ongoing column.

21. BEST ISSUE

Three (3) copies of the issue submitted by publisher or editor. Same criteria as Category 13.

SMALL-CIRCULATION AND OTHER NON-PROFIT OR CLUB NUMISMATIC PUBLICATIONS

(*State, regional and local publications and others with a circulation of less than 2,500.*)

22. BEST ARTICLE

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with any subject related to numismatics (ONE Award).

23. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) copies EACH of (3) selections from ongoing column.

24. BEST ISSUE

Three (3) copies of the issue submitted by the publisher or editor. Same criteria as Category 13.

NUMISMATIC NEWSPAPERS

25. BEST SPOT NEWS STORY

... or continuing coverage of a developing story in numismatics.

BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with:

26. Coins

27. Tokens & Medals

28. Paper Money

29. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) copies EACH of (3) selections from ongoing column.

30. BEST ISSUE

Three (3) copies of the issue submitted by the publisher or editor. Same criteria as Category 13.

NON-NUMISMATIC NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

31. THE MAURICE M. GOULD MEMORIAL AWARD

Entries may be submitted by publisher, editor or columnist of any coin column appearing regularly in any non-numismatic newspaper or magazine of any size circulation.

32. BEST ARTICLE

Three (3) copies of article dealing with any subject related to numismatics.

INTERNET WEB SITES

BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with:

33. Coins

34. Tokens & Medals

35. Paper Money

36. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) print-outs EACH of three (3) selections from ongoing online column.

37. BEST ONLINE NEWS WEB SITE

This category is for Web sites that disseminate general news and other information about the coin hobby. Three (3) copies of the Web site home page and all posted stories linked to it at the time the copies are made, submitted by the publisher or editor. Criteria include overall numismatic appeal, features, departments, graphics, journalistic and editorial excellence as applicable.

38. BEST DEALER WEB SITE

This category is for Web sites that are used to buy or sell coins, offer supplies or sell books or other forms of information related to numismatics. Three (3) copies of the Web site home page and all posted items linked to it at the time the copies are made, submitted by the publisher or editor.

39. BEST NON-TRADE WEB SITE

This category is for Web sites maintained by coin clubs and other non-commercial organizations and individuals

devoted to the coin hobby. Three (3) copies of the Web site home page and all posted items linked to it at the time the copies are made, submitted by the publisher or editor.

40. BEST BLOG

This award recognizes the best interactive blog that communicates information and personal commentaries about the numismatic hobby. Please submit hard copies of three (3) complete blog entries.

41. BEST NON-NUMISMATIC PRESS WEB SITE

This award will be presented for the best numismatic Web site produced by a non-numismatic news organization. Editorial content from members of the hobby press is acceptable. Three (3) copies of the Web site home page and all posted stories linked to it at the time the copies are made, submitted by the publisher or editor.

42. SOFTWARE

Best presentation of a new numismatic work, or new presentation of a previously published numismatic work, in CD ROM, DVD, floppy disk or any other electronic format. Only one copy of the work need be submitted. Entry must be accompanied by a written statement citing date(s) of first use, plus information required by NLG rules.

AUCTION CATALOGS

Three (3) copies of each catalog entered. Criteria include cover design, overall eye appeal, format, graphics and layout, in-depth research and quality of description. Entries may be submitted by auction firm, auctioneer or cataloger. ONLY ONE CATALOG FROM EACH AUCTION FIRM will be considered in each category. Multiple entries in either category will be disqualified.

43. Coin and currency auction catalogs

44. Catalogs for auctions of books and exnumia

COMMERCIAL PUBLICATIONS

45. LEE MARTIN FOUNDER'S AWARD

For Best Investment Newsletter: Criteria include overall reader appeal, quality of research and writing, and graphics as applicable. Submit three (3) copies EACH of three (3) issues – total, nine (9) items.

46. BEST DEALER-PUBLISHED MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER

Criteria include overall reader appeal, quality of research and writing, and graphics excellence. Submit three (3) copies EACH of at least three (3) different issues – total, nine (9) items.

BEST ALL-AROUND PORTFOLIO

47. Collection of writings and/or photographs and related items demonstrating numismatic writing ability and versatility. **Organization and presentation will count as heavily as volume.** Only one (1) copy of portfolio need be submitted; other copies of items included in portfolio may also be submitted in other relevant categories at entrant's option.

BEST WRITER IN NLG NEWSLETTER

48. *NLG Newsletter* editor alone selects winner. Criteria include writing skill and style, numismatic or organization support, content to inform the member readers. No entries accepted; editor alone decides.

AUDIO-VISUAL

49. RADIO (broadcast or online)

Best news story, feature report or continuing series involving numismatics. Entries must include standard-size CD, URL link or audiocassette of story or feature report or three (3) selections from continuing series, accompanied by written statement citing date(s) of broadcast, call letters and location of radio station, as well as information required in overall NLG rules. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

50. AUDIO

Best audio program involving numismatics, but non-broadcast. Includes audio tracks from numismatic slide shows, educational tapes, audio newsletters and other presentations. Entries must include standard-size CD or audiocassette, written statement citing date(s) of first use, plus information required in overall NLG rules. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

51. TELEVISION

Best spot news story, feature report or continuing series involving numismatics. Entries must include standard-size CD or videocassette recording of television broadcast or three (3) selections from continuing series. Entry

must be either DVD, CD or half-inch VHS or ¾-inch professional videocassette, and must be accompanied by a written statement citing date(s) of broadcast, call letters and location of station, plus information required in overall NLG rules. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

52. VIDEO – NON-COMMERCIAL

Best non-broadcast slide film, movie film or videotape presentation involving numismatics made for educational purposes. Entry must include audio as well as visual materials – either written script or soundtrack of DVD or CD, film, audio or video cassette used in presentation. Entry must be accompanied by a written statement citing date(s) of first use, plus information required by overall NLG rules. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

53. VIDEO – COMMERCIAL

Best non-broadcast slide film, movie film or videotape presentation involving numismatics made to promote a company or product. Entry must include audio as well as visual materials – either written script or soundtrack of DVD, CD, film, audio or video cassette used in presentation. Entry must be accompanied by a written statement citing date(s) of first use, plus information required by overall NLG rules. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

SPECIAL MEMORIAL AWARDS

54. JAMES L. MILLER MEMORIAL AWARD

This award, honoring the co-founder and longtime publisher of *COINage* magazine, recognizes the best numismatic article to appear in any medium, including both numismatic and non-numismatic magazines, newspapers and Internet Web sites. Submit three (3) copies or print-outs of an article dealing with any subject related to numismatics. Criteria include overall reader appeal, research quality and writing excellence. Articles submitted in this category may also be submitted in other applicable categories.

55. CLEMENT F. BAILEY MEMORIAL AWARD

This award was endowed by Jim Miller of Miller Magazines in memory of an especially beloved member of the numismatic writing community and NLG founder, Clement F. Bailey. This award recognizes excellence among new writers in numismatics whose first published

writings in this field appeared in hobby publications during the previous year.

Nominees are supplied solely by numismatic publishers.

56. THE RIBBIT

This award recognizes service to the hobby and to the NLG. The winner is selected by the previous year's recipient.

57. THE CLEMY

The winner of this award, the Guild's highest honor, is chosen by the previous year's recipient(s) from a list of nominees provided by the NLG Board of Directors.

NLG reserves the right to limit the number of plaques for any given entry, with the number to be determined at its discretion. NLG will provide plaques only for the persons named in an entry when it is originally submitted.

WRITERS' CONTEST PARAMETERS – APPLY TO ALL ENTRIES AND ENTRANTS

1. This contest is run by the Numismatic Literary Guild, Ltd. (NLG) for the benefit of its members. By entering the competition, each submitter agrees that for himself or herself, his or her firm (if any) and anyone on whose behalf he or she is making the submission that NLG shall not be held liable for damages, including compensatory damages, punitive damages, or any other damages, even if NLG is grossly negligent. If damages are awarded, each entrant agrees that the maximum amount of damages that may be awarded is One Dollar (U.S.) only.

2. To undertake an appeal of determination of the committee, the prospective appellant shall first agree in writing that the decision of the contest officials is final, except that anyone may appeal to the Board of Directors (Board) of the NLG, which may uphold or sustain the protest; affirm or reverse the decision in whole or in part, and/or change the determination, which shall then become the final determination.

3. To appeal or otherwise challenge, each appellant shall fill out an appeal form prepared by NLG and shall thereafter pay the filing fee determined each year by the Board for such purpose and then shall otherwise proceed as directed by that body.

4. The appellate forum shall hear the complaint (appeal)

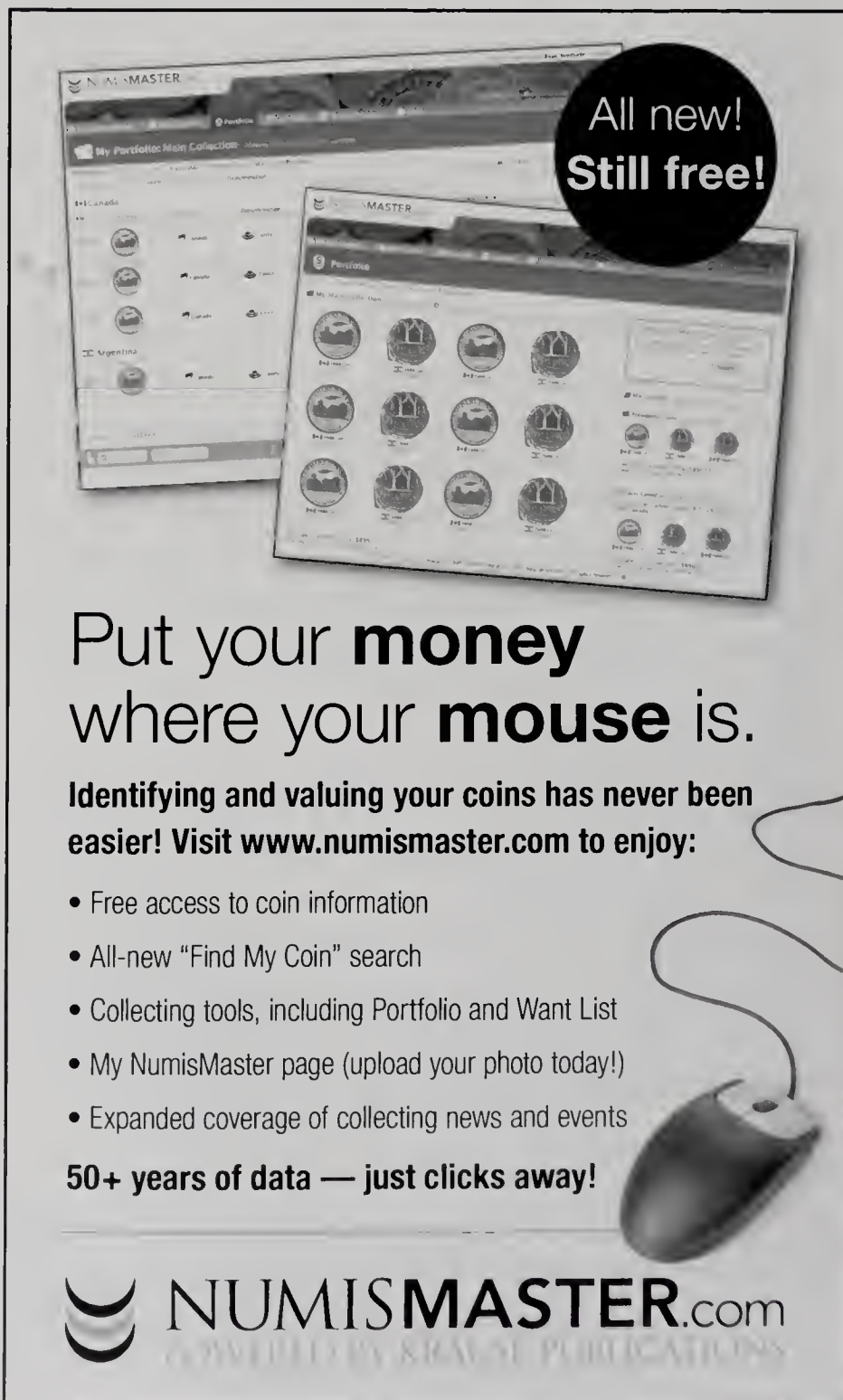
and decide within 72 hours. There shall be no appeal, but the Board may clarify any ruling made.

5. The Board shall have the right to classify or reclassify any artist or writer to any category.

6. Any person either appointed, designated or otherwise selected to serve shall enjoy immunity for the action of any third party

7. No participant may utilize any award given by NLG in any advertising unless he or she has obtained from NLG a license to do so. The license is required because NLG holds the rights to various intellectual properties and does not permit use of the initials "NLG" without its consent in license form.

8. The submission of this form constitutes the agreement and consent to the changes made herein.




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If you collect in any of these areas, we welcome your patronage. And if the time has come to auction some of your treasures, please call us for a confidential, no-obligation consultation.

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AT THE PHILLY MINT

By Ed Reiter

Back in the days of pre-hysteria music, in the early 1950s, George Clooney's aunt, Rosemary Clooney, recorded a sprightly ditty called "This Ol' House."

It occurred to me that last year, as NLG Bash-goers gathered near the fourth Philadelphia Mint, it might be fitting to borrow that tune for a tribute to the original house – the *Ritten*-house, if you will – of U.S. coinage, and the three Philadelphia mints that have followed.

Will there be yet another mint someday in the City of Brotherly Love? In the spirit of the parody, I'll take the Fifth on that.

*Rittenhouse was Mint director
When we started making coins.
He used horses for horsepower
And he girded workmen's loins.*

*Ye Olde Mint outgrew its britches,
So they built mints two through four.
But we'll soon be going cashless
And we won't need any more.*

*Ain't-a-gonna need no mints no longer
Ain't-a-gonna need no coins no more.
We'll use MasterCard and Visa
When we check out at the store.*

*Ain't got time for things of beauty
That a master artist paints.
With magnetic tape and plastic,
There'll be no need to mint more Saints.
(No need to mint more Saints.)*



Mike Fuljenz (left) gets an award for Best Online Article from Charles Opitz

MICHAEL SEDGWICK is proud that his company, FOUNTAIN PRESS, has been the Printer and Publisher of the NLG Newsletter for more than a decade.

What you may not know, however, is that the company also offers a full range of printing and mailing services from postcards and brochures to catalogs and programs.

Fountain Press also offers editing, printing and publishing services, backed by Michael's background as a numismatic writer and long-time publicist for the Royal Mint.

Contact: Michael Sedgwick
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FROM THE BOOK STACKS

By David T. Alexander, NLG

***American Numismatist* by Paul Hollis, 2012**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: *American Numismatist* was honored at the 2012 NLG Bash in Philadelphia as the year's Best Specialized Book on U.S. Coins.)

New numismatic books have been popping onto the market at a record rate in the last few years. Some of these titles are excellent additions to any carefully chosen collector library, while more than a few might be best described as lightweight and of limited value.

A shining example of exceptional quality in basic conception, writing, layout, illustration and originality has to be *American Numismatist* by Paul Hollis, a new 180-page hardcover text and pictorial history of U.S. coins and currency.

Professional numismatist Hollis tackles this complex subject chronologically, from "Birth of Our Nation" through "The Age of Redesign," from Colonial coins to National Park quarters. The text is concise and is amplified by an amazing wealth of supporting artwork, including coin and medal photos, portraits, historical engravings, paintings, prints, cartoons and contemporary documents of every description that bring the tapestry of history to vibrant life.

Hollis pays particular attention to national expansion through the Louisiana Purchase and later Oregon settlement, to the Southern gold rush that resulted in creation of U.S. branch mints in Dahlonega, Ga.; Charlotte, N.C. and New Orleans. He details the conquests achieved by the Mexican War and subsequent California Gold Rush, demonstrating that all of these events were interlocking parts of the same sweep of a nation's ongoing history.

The author presents the reality of slavery and the key events leading up to the Civil War with rare completeness. His admiration of and devotion to the memory of Abraham Lincoln are boldly obvious, though his insistence on presenting Lincoln as a frustrated conciliator before the shooting started could be the

source of lively dispute.

The numismatic history of "The War" is presented very properly as a tale of paper money: Greenbacks, Interest-Bearing Notes, National Bank Notes and fractional currency, as well as Confederate and Southern States currency. As Hollis points out, the coins struck during the struggle were comparatively few, the paper issues many and history-making. Civil War-related narratives represent a significantly large part of the whole book.

Discussion of the nation's banking adventures and misadventures expressed in recessions, panics and depressions is wonderfully complete, as is the author's examination of the long-running gold and silver controversies. Hollis' treatment of President Theodore Roosevelt is almost startlingly full, even allowing for "TR's" pivotal role in redesigning the nation's coinage. In contrast, he dismisses the country's classic commemorative coinage in only four pages.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt's role in the Great Depression and the abandonment of gold comes under a very objective review. The author retells the adventures of the famed 1933 gold double eagle in a refreshingly independent manner, though identifying Stack's as one of the two firms handling the record-smashing 2002 auction would have been a nice touch, as this reviewer wrote a goodly part of the auction catalog!

His skillful linking of the postwar U.S. and the Cold War to the present is masterly, if a trifle heavy on atomic bomb shelters. The Eisenhower, Kennedy, LBJ, Nixon and Reagan years are presented with the same chronological precision as the rest of the book, which does not shrink from such realities as the activities of Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy and racist resistance to integration. The book ends with the resumption of commemorative coinage, the circulating (sort of) dollars and statehood, presidential and National Park coinages.

American Numismatist deserves a place in every collector's library. Author Hollis can be contacted at Paul Hollis Rare Coins & Precious Metals L.L.C., <http://www.PaulHollis.com>

2012 NLG WRITERS' COMPETITION WINNERS

BOOKS

BOOK OF THE YEAR – The work having the greatest potential impact on numismatics:

Encyclopedia of the Commemorative Coins of the United States, by Anthony J. Swiatek

BEST SPECIALIZED BOOK

U.S. Coins: *American Numismatist*
by Paul Hollis

World Coins: *A Guide Book of Canadian Coins and Tokens, 1st Edition*
by James A. Haxby

U.S. Paper Money: *History of Collecting Confederate States of America Paper Money, Volume 1*
by Pierre Fricke and Fred Reed

World Paper Money: *World War II Paper Money and Financial Instruments of Nazi Germany*,
by Harold Kroll

Tokens and Medals: *Discover the World of Charbneau So-Called Dollars*
by Jeff Shevlin and William D. Hyder

Numismatic Investments: *The Essential Guide to Investing in Precious Metals*
by David L. Ganz

Museum and Exhibition Catalogs: *Cultural Change: Jewish, Christian and Islamic Coins of the Holy Land*.
American Numismatic Society, David Hendin, Author

EXTRAORDINARY MERIT:

A Guide Book of United States Coins, Professional Edition, 3rd Edition
by R.S. Yeoman; Kenneth Bressett, Senior Editor; Jeff Garrett, Valuations Editor; Q. David Bowers, Research Editor

America's Beautiful National Parks
by Aaron J. McKeon

Check List and Record Book of United States and Canadian Coins.

Whitman Publishing, L.L.C.; Dennis Tucker, Publisher

Cherrypickers' Guide to Rare Die Varieties, Fifth Edition, Volume II

by Bill Fivaz and J.T. Stanton; Ken Potter, Editor

Coinage of the Caravan Kingdoms
by Martin Huth

Coin World Almanac, Eighth Edition. The Coin World Staff; Beth Deisher, Coordinating Editor; William T. Gibbs, Project Editor

Collecting Rare Coins for Pleasure and Profit
by Q. David Bowers

One Coin Is Never Enough
by Michael S. Shutty Jr., Ph.D.

Peace Medals: Negotiating Power in Early America States Tokens and Medals
Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, Okla.; Robert B. Pickering, Editor

Standard Catalog of World Coins, 1601-1700, 5th Edition,
George S. Cuhaj, Editor; Thomas Michael, Market Analyst

The Collectible Ike Varieties, Special Edition.
The Ike Group; Rob Ezerman, Lead Author

The Surprising History of the 1838-O Half Dollar
by David Stone and Mark Van Winkle; James Halperin, Editor

Unusual World Coins, 6th Edition
George S. Cuhaj, Editor; Tom Michael, Market Analyst

U.S. Coins Close Up
by Robert R. Van Ryzin

U.S. COMMERCIAL NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES

BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

Coins: “Gobrecht’s Dollar Originals Show Eagle Flying Upward,” R.W. Julian, *Coins Magazine*

Extraordinary Merit: “Platinum: The Rich Man’s Gold,” Jim Kingsland, *COINage*

Tokens & Medals: “The 10 Most Interesting American Medals,” David T. Alexander, *COINage*

Paper Money: “Check – or Credit Card?,” Amy Drew Thompson, *COINage*

BEST COLUMN: “My Two Cents’ Worth,” Ed Reiter, *COINage*

BEST ISSUE: *Coins Magazine*, May 2012, Robert R. Van Ryzin, Editor

WORLD COMMERCIAL NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES

BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES:

Coins: “Errors by Design,” Dr. Kerry Rodgers, *Coin News*

Tokens & Medals: “Medal of Honor Commemorated in Coin,” Dr. Kerry Rodgers, *Australasian Coin & Banknote Magazine*

Paper Money: “Going to Hell in a Note Basket,” Kerry Rodgers, *Australasian Coin & Banknote Magazine*

BEST COLUMN: “Mostly Copper,” Donald H. Dool, *World Coin News*

BEST ISSUE: *Coin News*, November 2011, John W. Mussell, Group Managing Editor

NON-PROFIT OR CLUB NUMISMATIC PUBLICATIONS

BEST ARTICLE, LARGE PUBLICATIONS: “New Thoughts on the 1825/4 Half Eagle,” David Stone, *The Numismatist*

EXTRAORDINARY MERIT: “Ancient Coins and the Cultural Property Debate,” *ANS Magazine*

BEST COLUMN, LARGE PUBLICATIONS: “USA Coin Album,” David W. Lange, *The Numismatist*

BEST ISSUE, LARGE PUBLICATIONS: *The Numismatist*, June 2011, Barbara Gregory, Editor

BEST ARTICLE, SMALL PUBLICATIONS: “How Many Civil War Tokens Were Produced?,” Donald Erlenkotter, *Civil War Token Journal*

EXTRAORDINARY MERIT: “The Sovereign of the Seas Medal,” Tony Lopez and Skyler Liechty, *The MCA Advisory*, Medal Collectors of America

BEST COLUMN, SMALL PUBLICATIONS: “Introduction by the Editor,” Harry S. Salyards, *Penny-Wise*

BEST ISSUE, SMALL PUBLICATIONS: *Curry’s Chronicle*, Summer 2011, Carson City Coin Collectors of America, Rusty Goe, Editor

EXTRAORDINARY MERIT: *Longacre’s Ledger*, the Flying Eagle & Indian Cent Collectors Society, Rick Snow, Editor

NUMISMATIC NEWSPAPERS

BEST SPOT NEWS STORY OR CONTINUING COVERAGE OF DEVELOPING STORY IN NUMISMATICS: “The 1933 Langbord Double Eagle Trial,” Steven Roach, *Coin World*

BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES:

Coins: “Make Way for the Queen: 1870-CC Coronet \$20,” Rusty Goe, *Coin World*

Tokens & Medals: “Not the Lincoln You Know,” Fred L. Reed III, *Coin World*

Extraordinary Merit: “Unsinkable, Unthinkable Titanic,” Jeff Starck, *Coin World*

Paper Money: “Now There Are Six: Rare Confederate Tome Discovered,” Fred L. Reed III, *Bank Note Reporter*

BEST COLUMN: “Shades of the Blue and Grey,” Fred L. Reed III, *Bank Note Reporter*

BEST ISSUE: *Coin World*, Aug. 1, 2011, Beth Deisher, Editor

NON-NUMISMATIC PUBLICATIONS

THE MAURICE M. GOULD MEMORIAL AWARD, BEST COLUMN: “Money Talk,” Frank J. Colletti, *Lost Treasure Magazine*

BEST ARTICLE: “Looking at Rare Coins in a Time of Rapidly Rising Metal Prices,” Steve Roach, *Journal of Advanced Appraisal Studies*

COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND INTERNET WEB SITES

BEST WEB SITE ARTICLE (2-way tie): “In God We Trust: The Story of Our National Motto,” Mike Fuljenz, 1st American Reserve, and “The Fate of the Switt-Langbord 1933 Double Eagles,” Greg Reynolds, coinweek.com

BEST DEALER WEB SITE: HeritageAuctions.com, Heritage Auction Galleries, Paul Minshull, Brian Shipman, Michael Weems and Ryan Sokol

BEST NON-COMMERCIAL WEB SITE: hobonickels.org, The Original Hobo Nickel Society, Chris Dempsey, Webmaster

BEST TRADE PRESS WEB SITE: The E-Sylum, The Numismatic Bibliomania Society, Wayne Homren, Editor

EXTRAORDINARY MERIT: www.CoinWeek.com, David Lisot, Executive Producer; Scott Purvis, Webmaster

BEST INTERNET BLOG: “The Numismatic Insider,” Q. David Bowers, Whitman Publishing, LLC

BEST SOFTWARE: Odd & Curious and Traditional Money, Charles J. Opitz

AUCTION CATALOGS

BEST AUCTION CATALOG, COINS AND CURRENCY: “The Shoshana Collection of Ancient Judean Coins,” Heritage Auctions

EXTRAORDINARY MERIT: “Rarities Night,” August 2011, Stack’s/Bowers

EXTRAORDINARY MERIT: “The Hesselgesser Collection of Early Silver Dollars, Part II,” Ira and Larry Goldberg

BEST AUCTION CATALOG, BOOKS AND EXONUMIA: “The 2012 New York Book Sale,” Kolbe & Fanning

COMMERCIAL PUBLICATIONS

LEE MARTIN FOUNDER’S AWARD for Best Investment Newsletter: Maurice H. Rosen, *The Rosen Numismatic Advisory*

BEST DEALER-PUBLISHED MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER: *Investors Profit Advisory*, Universal Coin & Bullion Ltd., Michael R. Fuljenz, Editor

MISCELLANEOUS

BEST ALL-AROUND PORTFOLIO (3-way tie): Fred L. Reed III, Greg Reynolds and Jeff Starck

BEST WRITER IN NLG NEWSLETTER: Pete Smith

AUDIO-VISUAL

BEST RADIO REPORT: “Hotel Coin Buyers: Still a Major Problem,” Mike Fuljenz and Jerry Jordan, KLVI 560, Beaumont, Texas

EXTRAORDINARY MERIT: “Things You ‘Know’ That Just Aren’t So,” Patrick A. Heller, 1320 WILS-AM, Lansing, Michigan

BEST TELEVISION REPORT: “Guns and Gold,” Mike Fuljenz, Sportsman Channel

BEST NON-COMMERCIAL VIDEO: Money Show of the Southwest 2011 Educational Seminar, Mike Fuljenz, Speaker; David Lisot, Producer

BEST COMMERCIAL VIDEO: “Gold Coin & Bullion Market Today,” Mike Fuljenz

MEMORIAL AWARDS

JAMES L. MILLER MEMORIAL AWARD: Maurice Rosen, *COINage*, “Where Is the Coin Market Headed?”

CLEMENT F. BAILEY MEMORIAL AWARD, BEST NEW WRITER: Amy Drew Thompson, *COINage*

THE RIBBIT

R.W. “Bob” Julian

THE CLEMY

Jim Halperin and Steve Ivy

ALL SCHOOK UP ON GRADUATION DAY

Among the “entertainment” Bash-goers enjoyed – or, more accurately, endured – last year in Philadelphia was a skit about the Florence Schook of Numismatics. Here’s a refresher course:

And now, ladies and gentlemen, we pause in these solemn proceedings to announce the latest recipients of academic honors from the Florence Schook School of Numismatics. These awards are bestowed on worthy individuals for their dedication to Young Numismatists and old-school numismatics, as reflected in the spirit of the late Florence Schook.

Since it was established as a junior college five years ago, the Schook school has expanded rapidly and already boasts an impressive list of alumni. In fact, the number of honors and degrees it has awarded now exceeds the number of plaques awarded by the NLG.

Tonight’s first award is the MBA – or Master of Business Attire – degree, an honor named for its first recipient, Robert J. Leuver, former executive director of the ANA. This year’s honoree is Scott A. Travers, for his steadfast patronage of tailor shops that specialize in dark blue business suits. Scott has given new respectability to the word “clad” in the coin market, and seems destined to put the “vest” back in “investment.”

The Harvard Lampoon Award goes to Jim Halperin for bringing comic relief to a business that’s filled with lots

and lots and lots of bidder competition. Jim, as you may know, attended Harvard University in his college days. He never graduated, but he’ll always be an Ivy Leaguer in the eyes of the coin fraternity.

The Kodak Memorial Award for Consciousness goes to John Wilson for his long, determined battle to save traditional cameras and photographic film from extinction. John has said “Cheese!” so often in his life that Kraft Foods co-sponsored this year’s award.

The Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Steve Roach – not for what he has achieved so far in his life, but for what he will surely accomplish in the future – since, as everyone knows, being named editor of *Coin World* carries a minimum sentence of 25 years chained to a desk in Sidney, Ohio, with no time off for good behavior.

In a final development, the Governing Board of the Florence Schook School has announced that it is establishing a graduate program leading to the degree of Doctor of Numismatics. The new program is open to specialists in all areas of numismatics, regardless of denomination. It’s expected that within two years, it will produce enough coin doctors to serve the entire hobby.

The new doctoral program was inspired by the official motto of the dynamic young school: At the Florence Schook School of Numismatics, anyone can make the grade!

2012 BASH

Bash photos by Tim Reiter



**Ed Reiter
holding the Ribbit**



Book of the Year



Serving table



Kay Lenker and Steve Ivy



NLG NEWSLETTER
354 South Road
Millbrook, NY 12545

